

September 9, 2004

District Health Opens New Bellevue Office

South Central District Health will open its new office in Bellevue on Thursday, Sept. 16, and a public open house is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 29, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Both the former Hailey and new Bellevue offices will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 14 and 15, to move furniture and hook up phones. The new office in Bellevue is located at 117 East Ash St. and the phone number is 788-4335.

The 4,900 square foot building will replace the current 1,600 square foot office space located on Main Street in Hailey. SCDH offices have been located in Hailey for 65 years. The first facility in Hailey was established in 1938 and located in the basement of the present Blaine County courthouse. The new building in Bellevue is expected to cost \$1.2 million, funds that were allocated from South Central District Health's budget.

"We are very excited to be able to expand our facility's size in order to better serve our clients," said Cheryl Juntunen, South Central District Health Director. "We had outgrown our current location in Hailey and it was beginning to hamper our ability to provide some necessary services on-site."

"We feel that the move to Bellevue will give us room to grow as the population in Blaine and Camas counties grow," said Dr. Donald Bard, SCDH Board of Health Chairman. "Residents will be able to receive the same high quality services in Bellevue that they have received in Hailey for the last 65 years."

District Health provides a wide variety of services, ranging from environmental health programs to health services for men, women, and children.

Health Services for local communities include breast and cervical cancer screening for low income women; diabetes prevention programs; arthritis and asthma education programs; family planning; HIV testing and counseling, and AIDS case management; immunizations for children and adults; refugee services; clinics for people with tuberculosis; and the Women, Infants, and Children's (WIC) supplemental nutrition program.

Children's programs at SCDH include early childhood screenings, school health nursing, and child health and safety programs. SCDH also provides community education on injury prevention and adolescent pregnancy prevention.

The Environmental Health Division of South Central District Health works closely with other state and local agencies to ensure safe drinking water, safe food, and healthful environments in local communities. Environmental Health Specialists in each office issue permits and make environmental assessments for a variety of programs including food establishments, day care centers, swimming pools, sewage disposal systems, and drinking water.